

**PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

**Mr. J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., Cert. Meat and
Other Foods**

FOR THE YEAR

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HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1960.

Chairman: Coun. W. S. ROMAIN.

Coun. Mrs. E. EVANS.

Coun. F. ALLITT.

„ J. ELLIS EVANS.

„ A. T. PRICE.

„ J. M. PRITCHARD.

„ G. H. BARKER.

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„ J. R. GILBERT.

Chairman of the Council: Coun. J. F. JONES, J.P.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector: Meat and Food Inspector:

J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.

Clerk:

Mrs. J. HOLMES.

General Assistant:

J. E. PARRY.

Meteorological Officer:

T. GRANT, M.I.Mun.E.

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the Year 1961

To the Chairman and Members of the
Prestatyn Urban District Council.

I have pleasure in submitting my first Report as Medical Officer of Health on the health of Prestatyn for the year 1961.

During the year the National Census was taken and the adjusted population figure for Prestatyn was 10,670, which is an increase of 650 on the estimated figure for 1960. This shows that estimated figures in census years often become very incorrect, especially after many years' lapse from the previous census. There was an excess of deaths over births (176 deaths, births 172) of 4, which is a considerable reduction on previous years, and the adjusted birth rate of 17.2 is very similar to the national level of 17.4 per 1,000 population.

There was an increase in the building rate in the town and over 270 new properties were completed, and because of the increase in size of the population and the preponderance of old people who take up residence in the town, I was anxious to determine the extent of the future demands on the social services. A survey was conducted and the field work was carried out by the Treasurer's Department of the Urban District Council to whom I am very grateful. The details of the survey are given in my Report, but summarizing it appears that there will need to be considerable expansion in both the local authority and voluntary services in the town. It is often the case that people retire to Prestatyn for health reasons and are already in a poor state of health on taking up residence in the town and the demands on the local health services are high in relation to other areas of the country. The housing situation in the town is such that there is very little overcrowding and the majority of the families that require re-housing on the grounds of overcrowding or medical reasons have usually only resided in the town for short periods.

The waiting list for general needs cases is steadily diminishing and the introduction of a differential rent scheme encourages people with higher incomes to obtain their own housing accommodation so releasing local authority houses for those in financial need, which in my opinion is as it should be. The waiting list for old people's dwellings continues to increase. There are now 102 applications from aged people requiring re-housing, and no extra accommodation was provided during the year. Due to the very small number of Council bungalows available, it is regrettable to say that the majority of the people on the waiting list will have died before they will be offered accommodation. At the time of the writing of this Report plans are in the process of being drawn up for the provision of a small scheme of bungalows which it is hoped will be provided with special facilities for the welfare of the old people. For example, attention being paid to suitable baths, location of the height of switches and cupboards, etc., and details of the County Council financial aid scheme are given later in the Report. There is need for the authority to plan much more extensive schemes for the housing of the aged and I have in mind another 20 units of accommodation, preferably bungalows, for those aged persons who are now living in unsuitable accommodation and who cannot afford to buy property.

During the year a start was made on the slum clearance scheme of The Warren, where housing conditions can only be described as deplorable, and representations were made for demolition orders on one half of the properties that are permanently occupied. It is hoped to deal with the remainder of the properties during 1962.

As previously mentioned, the crude birth rate was 16.2 (adjusted rate 17.2), which is a considerable rise on the adjusted rate for 1960 of 14.8.

There were 6 still-births during the year compared with none the previous year and there were 4 deaths of infants under one year, of which three were under three weeks.

These infant deaths were caused through diseases that were, to a large extent, unpreventable, but, nevertheless, a higher standard of care is required in order to reduce this mortality to the absolute minimum.

The illegitimacy rate for the town has fallen since 1960, although it is still above the national average, and the only

comment I would make is that because of the small numbers involved a decrease of one birth makes a proportionately large alteration in the final calculations.

It is satisfactory to report that there were no deaths of mothers in childbirth and this achievement is largely due to the care which mothers receive during the ante-natal period and during the confinement, which invariably takes place either in Chatsworth House for normal cases or St. Asaph Hospital for complicated cases and mothers having their first babies.

There were 176 deaths in the population, which gives a crude death rate of 16.5. A corrected rate of the population is 13.5, compared with 12 per 1,000 of the national population. There are probably good reasons for the adjusted rate being higher than the national figure as previously mentioned in that a significant proportion of the people coming to reside in the town are already in a poor state of health. Of the 176 deaths, 53 were due to coronary disease and 39 were due to cerebral vascular lesions (strokes). There has been a rise in the incidence of coronary disease and the reason for this is still unknown and presents a challenge to public health. It is probably associated with the way of life of people living in a modern civilisation. During the year there were 6 new cases of Tuberculosis, compared with one previously. Constant vigilance is required in following up all new cases to ascertain, if possible, where they have obtained the infection and to stop the spread of further infection.

There is still a significant reservoir of infection in the community and, in my opinion, it is probably amongst the people over 50 years, especially the men who have suffered from chronic chest disorders. The Mass Radiography Unit visits Rhyl every three weeks and the service is extensively used by Prestatyn people, who are able to obtain an X-ray of chest without being referred by their own Doctors.

It is pleasing to record that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis during the year and many adults and children were vaccinated against the disease. The vaccine is now being manufactured in an oral form and all persons up to the age of 40 are eligible for vaccination and advised to take advantage of this. There are certain very strong advantages in the oral vaccine and it is hoped that the degree of protection will be long lasting, but only time will tell.

Two hundred and sixty-nine children were protected against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, which is now given

in a combined vaccine and it is important to ensure that a high index of protection is maintained in the community. One hundred and fifty-three children were vaccinated against smallpox.

I should like to emphasise that the public lavatories in the town still require urgent reconstruction, in particular at the Central Beach. The town is becoming increasingly popular as a resort for day trippers and, because of the increase in popularity of the Central and Ffrith Beaches, it is important to provide better facilities in these areas and also for free washing facilities to be installed in the conveniences.

Since the introduction of the Caravan Act, certain improvements have taken place in the local caravan sites, but the problem of tents is as serious as ever. During the summer, certain fields in Prestatyn are covered with tents giving the appearance of a large tented army and having below the minimum of sanitation. There seems to be no control of these campers and there is urgent need for some restriction in the interests of the residents of Prestatyn and of the health and comfort of the campers. Under the present legislation a tent may remain in a given place for 28 days before legal action can be taken. This is not only a local problem but a national problem, and the Government should introduce legislation on the lines of the recent Caravans Act. I wish to be fair in the matter and fully recognise that many people prefer to spend their holidays in tents, and Authorities should be prepared to meet their needs. Every seaside area should provide sites for tents, away from residential areas, where all facilities are available.

During the year I attended a course on radiation hazards, and my observations on this matter are that the sampling of water, soil and food for radiation contamination is a matter that is best left to Government Departments now undertaking this work. The assay of radio active elements is a very complicated procedure involving expensive equipment and skilled technical staff and is beyond the resources of local authorities in general. I would add that the Government Departments are not free from criticism in that there should be a greater divulgence of information as it comes to hand and local authorities should be notified immediately of the current levels of radio activity in various parts of the country. I obtain most of the latest information from popular periodicals such as Reader's Digest, and daily newspapers, and some time later receive a Government circular giving an abbreviated version of the information.

I am very glad to hear that, at the time of writing of this Report, that legislation is being introduced to control noise from motor vehicles. There is nothing more disturbing than hearing an unsilenced motor vehicle in the early hours of the morning, and I am happy that the legislation will include the disturbances arising from sports cars and motor cycles.

Although legal powers exist to control emission fumes from diesel vehicles, it has been my experience that there are far too many defective vehicles polluting the atmosphere excessively and the present legislation needs amending and stricter control should be exercised by the enforcing Authority. The Council has agreed to co-operate with two adjacent authorities in the scheme for the detection of atmospheric pollution, and I am arranging the necessary investigations to be put in hand.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. P. W. ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Land area (exclusive of foreshore)	1,640 acres
Land area (inclusive of foreshore)	3,219 acres
Population at mid-year 1961 (Registrar General's estimate)...	10,670
Population change compared with previous year (increase of 1)	650
Number of inhabited properties (end of 1961)	5,034
Number of empty properties (end of 1961)	80
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1961	£166,284
Product of a penny rate	£668
General rate in £1	23/4d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

The town has become renowned as a locality for retirement, with a favourable climate and almost fog-free atmosphere.

The district has recently become popular with holiday-makers, both day trippers and residential, and miles of excellent sand and a safe-bathing beach contribute to the amenities of the town. The population of the Urban District is growing

rapidly and within a decade, granted the present rate of expansion, it is possible for the population to exceed 17,000. There are no industries in the town, apart from catering for holiday-makers, but fortunately employment is available for manual and clerical workers in Deeside industrial plants which are within daily travelling distance.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births:

Live Births—Male 90, Female 82	172
Legitimate live births—Male 84, Female 75	159
Illegitimate live births—Male 6, Female 7	13
Illegitimate local rate per 1,000 live births	75
National illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births	59
Crude birth rate per 1,000 live births	16.2
Birth rate comparability factor	1.06
Birth rate standardised	17.2
National birth rate per 1,000 population	17.4

Still Births:

Still birth (total)	6
Legitimate still births (total)	6
Illegitimate still births (total)	—
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	33.7
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	18.7

Infant Mortality Rates:

Infant deaths under one year of age (total)	4
Legitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	4
Illegitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	23.3
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	21.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	25.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age (Neo-natal)	3
Legitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	3
Illegitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	—
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.4
National neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	15.5
Total peri-natal deaths (still births and deaths under one week combined)	8
Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	44.9
Deaths in first week of life (early neo-natal period)	2
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	11.6

Maternal mortality, including abortion:

Number of deaths	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	—

DEATHS.

Deaths—Male 85, Female 91	176
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	16.5
Comparability factor	0.82
Death rate standardised per 1,000 population	13.5
National death rate for England and Wales	12

POPULATION CHANGES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

The following table shows the change in population due to migration:—

Year	Mid-year population: Registrar General's estimated figure	Population change during year	Change in population due to births and deaths only during year	Change in population due to migration
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1901... ..	1,261†	—	—	—
1911... ..	2,036†	—	—	—
1921... ..	4,085†	—	—	—
1931... ..	4,511†	—	—	—
1941... ..	10,030†	—	—	—
1951... ..	8,809†	—	—	—
1952... ..	8,553	—256	—76	—180
1953... ..	8,670	+117	—19	+136
1954... ..	9,210	+540	—36	+576
1955... ..	9,050	—160	—49	—111
1956... ..	9,210	+160	—43	+203
1957... ..	9,380	+170	—31	+201
1958... ..	9,550	+170	—24	+194
1959... ..	9,720	+170	—64	+234
1960... ..	10,020	+300	—49	+349
1961... ..	10,670	+650	— 4	+654
	(10,750†)	(+730)	...	(+734)

†Census.

A minus sign in Column 4 indicates an excess of deaths over births.

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES.

The table below indicates the common causes of death in order of importance, as extracted from national returns:—

44%	... Heart disease.
17%	... Vascular lesions of C.N.S.
13%	... Cancer, excluding cancer of lung.
8½%	... All other causes.
5½%	... Bronchitis.
5%	... Other circulatory diseases.
2½%	... Cancer of lung.
2½%	... Pneumonia.
2%	... Other respiratory diseases.

Cancer: The total number of deaths from cancer has remained fairly stationary over the past decade, but the deaths from cancer of the stomach are tending to decrease, while, conversely, the deaths from cancer of the lung have increased.

The figures given below are an extract from the Registrar General's local returns.

Cancer deaths	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Lung	5	6	6	3	—	2	9	6	5	8	3
Stomach	4	9	4	5	5	1	6	3	4	4	2
Breast	2	3	1	4	5	1	6	2	4	1	3
Uterus	—	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	4
Leukaemia	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1
Other sites	16	14	10	8	18	13	16	15	24	15	13
Total all sites	27	36	23	22	29	18	39	30	39	29	26

Coronary Heart Disease: During the past twenty years there has been a considerable rise in the incidence of this disease, and although improved methods of certification of death may have accounted for some of the rise, it is generally considered that there has been a real rise in the incidence of this disease.

The following chart shows the annual deaths from this disease in the urban district over the past ten years:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Deaths	21	25	16	18	27	28	29	36	37	55	52

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 4 deaths of infants under 1 year of age and details are as follows:—

Age at death	
1 hour	Atelectasis.
3 days	Cerebral Oedema. Pulmonary Atelectasis. Prematurity.
4 days	Prematurity and Subdural Haemorrhage. Haemorrhagic disease of newborn. Bilateral tentorial tears.
1 week	Atelectasis, Prematurity.

CAUSES OF DEATH: REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN.

	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	1	2
2. Tuberculosis Other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parastic Diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	—	2
11. " " Lung	3	—	3
" " Bronchus			
12. " " Breast	—	3	3
13. " " Uterus... ..	—	4	4
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	4	9	13
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1	1
16. Diabetes	—	2	2
17. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	17	22	39
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	26	27	53
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	—	1	1
20. Other Heart Diseases... ..	6	7	13
21. Other Circulatory Diseases	4	5	9
22. Influenza	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia	2	—	2
24. Bronchitis	5	—	5
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	5	—	5
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	—	—	—
32. Other Defined and Ildefined Diseases	6	1	13
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	1
34. All Other Accidents	—	1	1
35. Suicide	1	—	1
36. Homicide and War Operations... ..	—	—	—
All Causes	85	91	176

CAUSES OF DEATH BASED ON LOCAL RETURNS.

Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.

Causes of Death	All ages	Under 5 years	5 years and under 15	15 years and under 25	25 years to 45 years	45 years to 65 years	65 and over
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory... ..	3	—	—	—	—	3	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
4. Diphtheria... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	—	—	—	—	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus, etc.	5	—	—	—	—	1	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	—	—	1	—	1	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
16. Diabetes	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	39	—	—	1	2	5	31
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	64	—	—	—	—	12	52
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
20. Other heart diseases	15	—	—	—	—	2	13
21. Other circulatory diseases ..	9	—	—	—	—	2	7
22. Influenza	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
23. Pneumonia	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
24. Bronchitis	5	1	—	—	—	3	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	—	—	2	—	—	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations, etc.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	3	—	—	—	—	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	—	1	2	—	—
34. All other accidents	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
35. Suicide	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
36. Homicide and war operations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	199	5	—	5	5	35	149

The discrepancy between the local death returns and the R.G. death returns is due to non-availability of certain transfer deaths for the completion of local returns.

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

Year	Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population.	Number of local births: R.G.'s returns	Local crude birth rate per 1,000 population	Local adjusted rate	National birth rate per 1,000 population	Local deaths: R.G.'s returns	Crude death rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted local rate per 1,000 population	National death rate per 1,000 population	Infant deaths under 1 year of age	Local infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	National infant mortality rate
1911	...	25	12.5	—	23.8	30	14.2	—	13.9	2	25.0	—
1921	...	30	10.1	—	—	32	10.8	—	—	1	33.0	—
1931	...	60	14.0	—	15.8	46	10.76	—	12.3	4	66.0	—
1941	...	132	13.2	—	14.2	135	13.5	—	12.9	7	53.4	66.0
1951	...	91	10.4	—	15.5	173	19.8	12.9	12.5	4	44.0	29.6
1952	...	94	10.9	—	15.3	170	19.9	12.9	11.3	3	31.9	27.6
1953	...	108	12.4	14.5	15.5	127	14.6	9.5	11.4	1	9.3	26.8
1954	...	98	11.0	13.6	15.2	134	15.1	9.5	11.3	—	—	25.5
1955	...	99	10.9	13.5	15.0	148	16.4	10.3	11.7	4	40.2	24.9
1956	...	104	11.3	14.0	15.7	147	15.9	10.9	11.7	2	19.2	23.8
1957	...	124	13.0	16.2	16.1	155	16.5	11.2	11.5	2	16.1	23.0
1958	...	143	15.0	18.4	16.4	167	17.5	11.6	11.7	1	7.0	22.5
1959	...	127	12.03	13.35	16.5	181	18.6	14.1	11.6	6	51.28	22.0
1960	...	134	13.4	14.84	17.1	183	18.3	13.9	11.5	1	6.0	21.7
1961	...	172	16.4	17.06	17.4	176	16.3	13.4	12.0	4	23.3	21.4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The table shown below indicates the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases that occurred during 1961.

Disease	At all ages	Under 1 year	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-14	45-64	Over 65	Cases admitted to hospital
Scarlet Fever	5	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	33	46	2	2	—	—	3
Measles	106	4	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	—
Food Poisoning	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	119	4	20	36	48	4	3	2	2	3

There was a large outbreak of measles mainly affecting children between 3 and 6 years of age. Fortunately few complications occurred and only 3 cases were admitted to hospital.

During the year six cases of food poisoning occurred and the responsible organism was salmonella typhimurium, but extensive investigation failed to reveal the source of the infection although it is almost always food borne, usually in made-up meat dishes, sausages and pies. Constant vigilance is required in ensuring that food handlers maintain a high standard of practice and inform their doctors should any symptom of ill health develop. In two of the cases of food poisoning there was a link with outbreaks of a similar disease in an adjoining authority.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria. Too much importance should not be attached to the returns shown below, in particular for such diseases as measles and whooping cough, as general practitioners only notify, in my experience, a proportion of the cases that occur.

TABLE SHOWING TREND OF INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

Disease	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet Fever	2	1	22	5	3	3	2	6	19	3	5
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	1	3	—	4	1	34	1	—	2	1
Whooping Cough	51	8	48	3	3	18	53	19	8	3	1
Measles	109	35	47	12	197	8	53	197	20	137	106
Pneumonia	6	4	9	2	1	2	5	1	3	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	556	2	1	3	3	5	1	1	6
Dysentery	2	—	3	5	—	5	—	2	—	11	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	3	4	4	2	1	2	—	1	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	17	6	17	8	5	9	12	1	6	1	6
Tuberculosis Non-respiratory	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS, 1961.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65... ..	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
66 and upwards...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total... ..	4	2	—	—	2	1	—	—

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were six new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1961, all of which were respiratory in origin. Close co-operation is maintained between the district, county and hospital authorities, as all have responsibilities in the treatment and after care of tuberculosis sufferers. Details of the new cases are given in the table.

It will be observed that all the cases occurred in people over 35 years and which is often a flare up of latent infection contracted much earlier in life.

Most county district health authorities maintain a tuberculosis register of all persons who are suffering or recently have suffered from the disease, and during the year the local list was revised in conjunction with the Chest Clinic at Royal Alexandra Hospital and the County Council records and the position at the end of 1961 was as follows:—

Pulmonary Cases	Males: 25 ...	Females: 21
Non-Pulmonary Cases... ..	Males: — ...	Females: —

Bovine tuberculosis has virtually been eliminated largely due to the introduction of tuberculin testing of cattle and the slaughter of positive reactors.

CHEST X-RAY FACILITIES.

The Welsh Regional Hospital Board has a mobile X-ray unit based at Wrexham, which visits all parts of North Wales, and regularly every third Tuesday is located at Rhyl Town

Hall all day. The unit is available to all members of the public except young children, and details are given below of the 1961 results:—

MASS RADIOGRAPHY REPORT.

No. of people attending mobile unit during the year	1,835
No. of unit attendances during year	16
Average public attendance per session	115

One hundred and eighty-four abnormalities were discovered amongst the 1,835 persons attending, and details are shown below:—

New cases of pulmonary T.B.	4
Healed primary T.B.	14
Healed post-primary T.B.	29
Abnormalities of the bony thorax and soft tissues	26
Malignant neoplasm of lung	1
Non-malignant neoplasms	2
Lymphadenopathies excluding sarcoidosis	1
Congenital cardiac abnormalities	2
Acquired cardiac abnormalities	36
Pneumoconiosis	1
Emphysema	8
Pulmonary fibrosis	7
Bacterial and virus infection of the lungs	1
Pleural thickening and calcification	13
Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus	5
Malformation of the lungs	1
Miscellaneous	1
Failed to attend Chest Clinic	3
Negative after investigation at clinic	29
Total	184

I am indebted to Dr. Jarman for these statistics.

CHEST CLINIC.

The treatment of cases of tuberculosis is the responsibility of the Consultant Chest Physician, Dr. Morrison, at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

PROVISION OF SERVICES UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946.

The following services are the responsibility of the Flintshire County Council, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer, Dr. G. W. Roberts, for allowing me to give full details of the following services available locally:—

SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

There is one Clinic in Prestatyn which is situated in Kings Avenue, and Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Friday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. A Medical Officer attends every first and third Friday.

ANTE NATAL CLINICS.

Ante Natal Clinics are held at Kings Avenue on alternative Fridays and are staffed by the Consultant Obstetrician. Talks are given by health visitors to the mothers on child birth and baby management.

FAMILY PLANNING.

Family Planning facilities are available at Flint for the Prestatyn area.

WELFARE FOODS.

Distribution of Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Vitamin Tablets and Orange Juice) is carried out by the Women's Voluntary Service, Local Branch, on behalf of the County Council, and the distribution centre is at 'The Scala Buildings and at 'The Clinic on Fridays, and at 'The Scala Buildings on Tuesdays and Saturdays between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. At the W.V.S. Centre on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

This is arranged at the County Council Clinics in the area and is carried out by the Dental Officers employed by the County Council. Treatment is arranged free during the ante-natal and post-natal periods up to one year after the birth of the child. It is regrettable that more mothers do not take advantage of these facilities.

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY SERVICES.

There are three midwives who are also trained district nurses employed in the area who carry out ante-natal and post-natal care for mothers during this time and after discharge from hospital after childbirth.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITORS.

There are two health visitors employed locally and they are responsible for giving advice to families of all ages with special reference to the young and the very old. Their duties have increased of late due to the ever expanding demands of the old people of Prestatyn, and their work is complementary to that of the General Practitioner, who is often so hard pressed throughout his daily routine and is quite unable to give the necessary advice on health matters that should be given by him to his patients. There is a growing tendency to assign health visitors to groups of practitioners so as to assist them in their daily duties, especially on health education and the prevention of illness, and this is being considered for certain parts of the County.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING.

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, the duties of the midwife are shared with those of the district nurse in the area, and the district nursing aspect of the work is increasing in relation to the midwifery side which is diminishing because of the increasing proportion of Hospital confinements in the area. As mention will be made in a later part of the Report of the increasing number of people in Prestatyn, there will be further heavy demands which will probably necessitate increasing the staff. Home helps are engaged in the town mainly on a part-time basis, and this service is a most valuable and important recent development of local authority services.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Smallpox: The number of people vaccinated against Smallpox in the Urban District during the year was 154, and details are given in the following table:—

Age Period	Primary Vaccination		Re- Vaccination
Under 1 year	104	...	—
1—2 years	6	...	—
2—4 years	2	...	—
5—14 years	6	...	2
15 years and over	12	...	22
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	130	...	24
	<hr/>		<hr/>

At the time of going to press, this country was faced with a threat of major Smallpox outbreaks due to the importation of the virus by infected persons from Pakistan. These Smallpox outbreaks have shown a need for constant vigilance on the part of the Public Health Departments over the whole country scrutinising new arrivals into the United Kingdom from infected areas abroad. Since compulsory vaccination was suspended in 1948, the number of babies protected against the disease has fallen to a very low level, but there is a divided body of opinion as to whether primary vaccination over the age of five years is justified as a routine measure. My own opinion is that there is little need for children over 5 years and young people to be vaccinated unless they are going to tropical areas or entering one of the professions which may involve risk in later life. Vaccination against Smallpox is not without risk and the safest period is during the first three years of life.

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS.

Protection was given during the year to 269 children, of which 33 were under one year. Full details are given in the table below:—

Age Period	Primary	Reinforcing (diphtheria only)
Under 1 year	33	—
1—4 years	93	12
5—14 years	9	122
Total	135	134

Booster injections against diphtheria only were given to 122 children at the age of five years on primary medical examinations in Schools, and it has been the policy of the County Health Department during the past four years, to give the combined vaccine (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus) and a large number of children have now been protected against these three diseases. It is anticipated to shortly give booster injections at five years against the three previously mentioned diseases to re-inforce the protection given in infancy. Diphtheria still occurs occasionally and any relaxation in the immunisation programme is bound to lead to an outbreak.

POLIOMYELITIS.

In 1961 many adults and children received protection against Polio, and open sessions were arranged during the evenings

for adults to attend and fair response was obtained. Towards the end of the year, oral vaccine became available and this will supersede the injections. There is no doubt that oral vaccine has considerable advantages over the injections, in that it is painless, quick, cheaper and is effective in stopping the spread of Polio during epidemic conditions. Furthermore, it is safe, but the one remaining question that has been unanswered is its long term powers of protection and whether booster doses will be required at possibly five-yearly intervals.

MEASLES.

Experiments are being conducted to introduce a safe and effective vaccine to protect infants against the disease, and it may take the form of a live or killed vaccine.

SECTION 27—AMBULANCES.

The ambulance service is radio-controlled and administered from the headquarters at Mold. A local station is situated at Rhyl.

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS AND AFTER CARE LOAN OF EQUIPMENT.

The County Council loan equipment to handicapped persons to assist rehabilitation. Arrangements are in force whereby persons may also hire medical equipment from the local British Red Cross Organisation at a very small fee, and enquiries are directed to Red Cross Headquarters at Victoria Avenue between 3 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. This is a most valuable service provided by this wonderful voluntary organisation and they are to be highly commended on their efforts.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Treatment, which is free and confidential, is available at the following clinics:—

H.M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph.

Male and Females—5.30 to 7 p.m.

Chester Royal Infirmary.

Males—Wednesday, 5—7 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.
Females—Monday, 5—7 p.m. Thursday, 5—7 p.m.

SCHOOL HEALTH.

Medical examinations of school children were carried by me as Assistant County Medical Officer in the district during the year, and I am pleased to say that the standard of health of the school children locally is very high indeed. There is a constant influx of new children and overcrowding is a serious problem in one school. The sanitary arrangements in one school in Prestatyn leave very much to be desired and are equivalent to sanitary conditions in the eighteenth century. I understand that arrangements are now in hand for new toilet blocks to be erected.

PROTECTION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (B.C.G. VACCINATION).

All thirteen year old pupils are offered protection against Tuberculosis, which has proved to be most valuable in reducing the incidence of the disease. During the year it is pleasing to state that there were no cases of Tuberculosis amongst the school children in Prestatyn.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBNORMALITY.

This is an expanding field of medical care, and the after-care of patients discharged from Mental Hospitals is the responsibility of the County Council Mental Welfare Officers.

Children who are of school age who are mentally retarded and not suitable for education in ordinary schools are admitted to the Training Centre at Rhyl for sub-normal children.

NURSING HOMES.

The following Nursing Home in the town is registered under Public Health Act, 1936, with the County Council, and inspected periodically: Hawarden House, Victoria Road, Prestatyn.

WELFARE SERVICES.

Homes are provided by the County Council for the admission of aged and handicapped persons who are unable to look after themselves adequately in their own homes. Two such homes are situated in Prestatyn, i.e., Park House and Carr Holm.

SECTION 47—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

This section conveys powers to District Councils to remove persons who are "aged, infirm, or suffering from grave chronic diseases and are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to look after themselves and are not receiving adequate care and attention from others."

During 1961 one case was dealt with under this section of the Act, and brief details are given as follows:—

An old lady living alone in indescribable squalor was removed to Hafan Glyd, Shotton. She refused to accept any help whatsoever, and in her own interests and in the interests of the community it was necessary to remove her under judicial order. She has settled down well in the Home and the order has been revoked.

There were no orders in force at the end of the year. During the year other instances of people requiring care and assistance were brought to the notice of the health department and the majority of cases were admitted to homes or hospital without resort to legal action.

I would like to pay particular credit to the work of all the voluntary organisations in relieving the suffering and hardships of the old and lonely people in Prestatyn.

HEALTH EDUCATION ACT AND FOOD HYGIENE.

During the year a campaign was launched at the height of the Summer season to emphasise the dangers of food poisoning among those responsible for the serving of food to the public. Letters and posters were sent out to Shops, Cafes, Hotels and Boarding House owners,, and I am pleased to say that during the year we had very few cases of food poisoning notified to the department. The standards of food hygiene in the United Kingdom are still far below the modern acceptable standard and it is necessary to constantly remind those persons engaged in food preparation of the dangers of careless habits in causing food poisoning.

DIABETES SERVICE.

Recently, with the co-operation of the County Welfare Officer and the Matrons of the Flintshire County Council

Homes, I carried out a survey to ascertain the incidence of diabetes in old people, and the results of the work are as follows:—

Two hundred and forty-three patients' urines were tested and 9 cases of glycosuria were discovered (3.8%), of which 4 were known diabetics. Of the remaining 5, there were 2 cases of confirmed diabetes, two cases proved negative and one case is still under investigation, and will probably be confirmed as diabetic. It has been the policy in most of the homes to test the urine shortly after admission with the "Clinistix." In the case of the two new cases of diabetes, these tests carried out on admission approximately two years ago, were negative.

As a result of this work, certain recommendations have been made and further information will be given when available at a future date.

PRESTATYN SURVEY.

The following survey was carried out by me:—

PRESTATYN SURVEY

(Ref. Recent Telecon re. 10 year plan for Local Health Authorities).

I hereby give below details of a Report submitted to the Prestatyn Health Committee on the 9th July, 1962.

A recent survey of 100 consecutive house and bungalow occupancies was carried out at my instigation by the Treasurer's Department of the Prestatyn Urban District Council.

The reasons which prompted me to carry out this survey were:—

- (1) Prestatyn is a rapidly growing town.
- (2) I have formed the impression that the majority of the newcomers to the town were old people and I wished to confirm this.
- (3) The results of the survey, together with the probable future programme, might give some indication as to the future demands of the social services in the town.

There are approximately 200-250 new properties erected each year in Prestatyn and this level of building will probably be maintained over the next few years subject, of course, to any national factors which might affect it.

One hundred Questionnaires completed of new occupancies.
These consist of:—

75 Bungalows.
21 Houses.
4 Flats.

Of the 75 Bungalows ... 61 were being occupied for the first time.
14 were being re-occupied.

Of the 21 Houses... all were being re-occupied.

Of the 4 Flats ... 2 were being occupied for the first time.
2 were being re-occupied.

The 100 occupancies contained 255 people of all ages of which 59 people were over 65 years (23%). This percentage is almost double the national figure of approximately 12% at the 1961 census. Furthermore, the number of children 0-15 years in 100 occupancies—50 (19%). The National Average 1961 Census was 23%.

Age breakdown of the 50 children between 0—15 years:—

0— 5 years	21
5—15 years	29

Assuming a growth of 200 properties per annum in the future over 5 years with the existing proportion of bungalows to houses (house building apart from Local Authorities is extremely small):—

In 100 occupancies there were 63 new units of accommodation of all types.

Therefore, assuming 200 new units provided per annum (and this is on the conservative side at present) this will provide 317 occupancies per annum.

Following on from this (317 occupancies), and assuming existing age structure of the new occupiers, this will produce an extra 2.55 people per occupancy, equivalent to 808 increase in population per annum, of which 185 will be people over 65 and 160 will be children 0—15:—

0— 5	64 children
0—15	96 children

Over a period of 5 years, there would be an extra

925 over 65 years;
320 children 0—5 years; and
480 children 5—15 years.

The conclusions that can be drawn over future 5 year periods are:—

- (1) There will probably be an extra 240 children in Prestatyn between the ages of 5 and 10 years, and 240 children approximately 10—15 years.
- (2) Additional 320 children 0—5 years.
- (3) Additional 925 old people over 65 years.

I leave you to draw your own conclusions from these figures, but in my opinion, judging from your recent annual reports, it would be apparent that an additional District Nurse will be required and, possibly, an additional Health Visitor, and a considerable expansion in the Home Help Service. Furthermore, the Education Authorities will have to plan for either expansion of the existing Primary Schools or the erection of a new School. I understand that an additional three classrooms can be accommodated in the Penmorfa School extension proposals.

I hope this information will be of value to you.

EMPLOYMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

" I am pleased to give details below of the Employment Officer's Report for the Rhyl, Prestatyn, St. Asaph and Abergele areas:—

(1) Unemployment.

Number of Persons Registered as Unemployed (excluding Registered Disabled Persons requiring employment under sheltered conditions) for the year 1961.

Date	Men	Women	Total
16th January	441	233	674
13th February,	440	221	661
13th March	409	201	610
10th April	359	141	500
15th May	307	97	404
12th June	228	15	243
10th July	195	9	204
14th August	228	14	242
11th September	266	44	310
16th October	441	148	589
13th November	454	183	637
11th December	473	182	655

The downward trend in unemployment, apparent since 1958, continued in 1961, but hardened towards the end of the year, due to a general levelling off of employment throughout the country.

These factors must be considered also in the light of the rise in the insured population of the area since 1958. In June, 1958, the insured population was 11,814, and in June, 1961, it was 13,099—an increase of nearly 11 per cent.

(2) Disabled Persons.

	11th April, 1960		17th April, 1961	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
1914-18 Pensioners	64	—	49	—
Other disabled (H.M.F.)	115	1	111	1
Disabled from birth or early childhood	45	17	45	17

The largest causes of disablement are injuries and diseases to the upper and lower limbs.

Next comes Pulmonary T.B. and diseases of the heart and circulatory system. Other chest complaints figure high on the list, but it is felt that the majority of these people have come here for their health.

This is an important point in considering what can be done for these disabled. A large number of elderly workers "retire" here because of their health, and are happy if they find something during the season, and retire officially on reaching the age of 65.

Fifty per cent. of the unemployed Registered Disabled Persons are over 55; Seventy-five per cent. are over 50. None are over 65. Statistics show that very few of the younger disabled are unemployed for a lengthy period.

Registered Disabled Persons—Section I.

Number unemployed on:—	Men	Women	Total
16th January, 1961	50	11	61
20th February, 1961	60	9	69
20th March, 1961	58	8	66
17th April, 1961	46	8	54
15th May, 1961	42	8	50
20th June, 1961	40	2	42
17th July, 1961	38	1	39
21st August, 1961	34	4	38
18th September, 1961	44	6	50
16th October, 1961	58	11	69
20th November, 1961	55	11	66
18th December, 1961	43	11	54

Section II Cases (suitable for employment under sheltered conditions only) have been excluded. The Total varied between one and six.

The total number registered as disabled is as follows:—

	Men	Women	Total
20th April, 1959	359	56	415
19th October, 1959	384	62	446
11th April, 1960	408	59	467
18th October, 1960	412	66	478
17th April, 1961	412	51	463
18th October, 1961	410	68	478

These figures are not strictly representative of the disabled in this area, but are approximately correct—persons register at this office but leave the area, others register elsewhere but come here to reside.

It would appear, therefore, that the problems of the disabled in this area are three-fold, and in order of importance I would list them as:—

- (1) **Living in this Area:** Without diversifications of industry, opportunities of fitting a person with a specific disability to a specific job, seldom arise. A small circle of employers are being approached time after time, and although willing to consider the disabled, are limited in the number of posts they can offer.
- (2) **Age:** In an area with a high percentage of unemployment, the older person is at a great disadvantage—unfortunate but understandable. As will be seen from the figures quoted, most of the Registered Disabled Persons are in the “over 50s.” It must be borne in mind, however, that the majority of our **able-bodied** unemployed are in the same age group.
- (3) **Disability:** This, in the majority of cases, is the least of the problems.

(3) **Employment.**

The vacancies in this office area outstanding on 13th June, 1962, were:—

Agriculture	2 men
Timber	3 men
Construction	12 men
Transport	3 men
Distributive Trades	15 women, 4 men
Professional Services	1 man, 16 women
Miscellaneous Services (including Recreation, Cinemas, Catering, Hotels, Laundries, Domestic Service)	18 men, 133 women
Public Administration	1 man, 1 woman

You will appreciate that, although outstanding vacancies are recorded on a certain date, many of them will be filled in a very short time. A large number are seasonal vacancies and will be difficult to fill, as for example, the vacancies for women in catering. Other vacancies (e.g., Agriculture and Building) are for skilled men at a time when there is a shortage of skilled labour.

Generally, apart from seasonal work, we have very few vacancies outstanding for very long in the area, the exceptions being vacancies for skilled workers in particular trades.

The vacancies recorded from other districts within daily travelling distances are in two categories:—

- (a) Skilled workers, mainly in Building and in Engineering.
- (b) Workers for seasonal work for similar vacancies we are finding difficulty in filling ourselves.

It is well nigh impossible to balance the unemployed with the vacancies available. The vacancies outstanding are usually for workers with special skills and not suitable for the unemployed.

Some indication of the vacancies in the area can be gleaned from the fact that in 1961 this office placed in employment 842 men and 587 women.

The general picture is, therefore, vacancies for skilled workers in certain industries; more vacancies in summer for females than the number of women available; a high number of vacancies for men in the summer; a few unskilled vacancies for either sex in the winter months.

General Comments.

The area is a seasonal holiday resort and, consequently, the unemployed figures are high in winter and low in summer. In fact, there is a substantial shortage of female labour during the summer months. In the last 12 months two factories have been set up in the area, already employing about 60 workpeople. These two factories hope to extend their labour force to about 200 in the next two years. Work has already started on another new factory which hopes to employ up to 150 workers in the next two years.

I think it fair to say that workpeople move to this area on medical advice, due to their own illnesses or illnesses of their family. The workpeople often have special skills or experience which are difficult to fit into the industries of the area, and they are also at an age where it is difficult to train them in new skills."

METEOROLOGY.

Full details of climatic conditions during the year in Prestatyn are given at the end of Mr. Edwards' Report, but Prestatyn is fortunate in having a very equable dry climate and free from fog. It is particularly suitable for persons who are suffering from respiratory diseases.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

The local Public Health Laboratory is situate at Conway, and Dr. Kingsley Smith, the Director, and his Deputy, Dr. Harris, carry out the bacteriological examinations of specimens sent from the Urban District. They have been most co-operative and my gratitude is extended to them for their advice and help throughout the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year 44 samples of water were taken and found to be satisfactory bacteriologically.

I list below a Report on a sample of water submitted during the year for chemical analysis:—

“Analysis:

Appearance	Clear and Colourless
Odour	Nil
Reaction, pH	7.3
	parts per million
Total solids	310
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.02
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	2.5
Chlorides, as Cl	30
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.54
Total hardness	263
Temporary hardness	218
Permanent hardness	45
Alkalinity	218
Free Chlorine	Nil
Potassium, as K	1.9
Anionic synthetic detergents	Nil
Manganese, as Mn	Nil
Cyanides and Thiocyanates	Nil
Poisonous metals	Nil
Fluorine	less than 0.1

Opinion:

The chemical condition of this water is satisfactory.”

It will be observed that the fluorine content of the water is negligible, which is surprising because of the originality of the source, i.e., hard water supply from the lime stone source. The question of fluoridation of the water supply is at present under review and it is hoped to make a future report on the matter to the Health and Water Committees.

There are no bore holes in the district, but five dwellings are still served by wells due to difficulties in arranging a satisfactory main water supply.

Number of dwellings served by public main direct to house	4,154
Number of dwellings served by means of stand pipes	8
Number of dwellings served by means of wells	2
New mains were laid in	272

MILK SUPPLY.

The sampling of milk for submission for bacteriological and chemical analysis is now the responsibility of the County Council, and details are given in Mr. Lewis' Report (County Public Health Inspector) of the number of samples of milk taken and the results thereof.

I am pleased to say it was not necessary to issue any pasteurisation orders on milk unfit for consumption but, nevertheless, it is necessary to take regular samples to ensure a clean milk supply. It is unfortunate, in the present legislation, that many Authorities are involved in the administration of food and drugs, but this is a national problem and not a local one and I must take this opportunity of thanking the County Health Department officials for their ready co-operation in this matter.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES.

There is no licenced slaughter house in Prestatyn.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year there were outstanding four houses still unconnected to the main drainage on the Bishopswood Road, but arrangements are now in hand for their connection to the town's drainage system.

There are 50 properties in the town not connected to the main drainage system.

The surface water system is in the main separate from the foul water system and in certain areas is unsatisfactory. Considerable flooding occurs during heavy thunderstorms, especially in lower High Street, but the Council are considering giving approval to a plan to relieve this problem.

It is becoming apparent that the sewer outfall is not performing satisfactorily and it is urgently necessary for this matter to be attended to.

I am of the opinion that if it is recommended that a new outfall be constructed at the existing outfall point, then it should be considerably longer than the present pipe so as to reduce the risk of contamination of the beach. I have in mind a pipe to take 2 d.w.f. of up to 3 miles in length, and this is not beyond civil engineering capabilities.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

During the year samples were taken regularly from the Swimming Pools and were satisfactory, and further details appear later in Mr. Edwards' Report.

Prestatyn is an expanding seaside resort and I consider that it will be desirable in the not too distant future for arrangements to be made for a heated indoor Swimming Pool.

CARAVAN SITES.

The Caravan sites in the Urban District are gradually being brought up to standard under the Caravan Act, 1960. Further details of these appear in Mr. Edwards' Report.

It is regrettable that there is little control over tents in the district, and it is a regular and common feature during the Summer week-ends for large numbers of tents to be situated in certain fields with insufficient sanitation. Furthermore, it has a serious effect on the amenities of the area and one difficulty is that the sites used at present have been used for camping for many years, but increasing numbers of campers are using them each year.

I consider that some action will be necessary to control this nuisance but, on the other hand, since Prestatyn is a holiday resort, other arrangements must be made to meet the need for camping. Furthermore, I suggest that a Municipal Site be acquired for both camping and caravanning, where adequate sanitary facilities and density of tents and caravans can be laid down.

SMOKE CONTROL.

There has been increasing emphasis on control of atmospheric pollution during the past few years. It is becoming very evident that there is a strong link between lung cancer and chronic bronchitis and pollution of the atmosphere, whether it be from cigarette smoke, petrol fumes or combustion of coal. Prestatyn, fortunately, enjoys a fairly clean atmosphere, due to its location, but arrangements are being made with two adjoining District Councils for a joint investigation into the question of atmospheric pollution, if any, in the town.

HOUSING.

During 1961 the extent of new property constructed is shown below:—

The number of private new houses built in the town was	4
The number of private new bungalows built in the town was	268
The number of Council property built in the town was	4

There has been a great expansion in the private speculative building in the town during the past few years and it appears that the present trend is likely to be continued. Reference has been made to the implications of this previously in the special survey.

HOUSING WAITING LISTS.

The number of people waiting for Council houses is	90
The number of people waiting for old people's bungalows is	91
The number of Council houses is	435
The number of old people's bungalows is	22
The number of old people's flats is	8

It is obvious from these figures that the emphasis on housing is for the greater provision of old peoples dwellings and the County Council have recently formulated a scheme to provide grants to district councils and the details of the scheme are as below:—

Basic Conditions for Contribution by County Council.

“In order to qualify for a contribution from the County Council the following basic conditions must be fulfilled:—

(a) An application for the County contribution must be made in good time before the commencement of any scheme

to which it relates and be accompanied by the following details and information:—

- (i) The estimated cost of the scheme;
- (ii) An outline list of the welfare services to be provided with the estimated cost of such services;
- (iii) Plans of the scheme for formal approval in writing by the County Council.

(b) Units of housing accommodation shall be occupied by single persons of pensionable age (i.e., men over 65 years of age and women over 60 years of age) or married couples where both husband and wife are of pensionable age, or by persons who, in the opinion of the County Welfare Officer, can benefit from special housing accommodation by reasons of infirmity.

Welfare Facilities.

The County Council considers that the following welfare facilities—the list is not necessarily intended to be exhaustive—are desirable in connection with housing accommodation provided for aged and other people intended to be covered by this scheme and that the District Council should, wherever possible and practicable, provide as many of these welfare facilities as are appropriate to the particular scheme:—

- (a) Central heating for the dwellings;
- (b) A common room for use by the residents in the scheme;
- (c) Baths of a type suitable for old people and provided with fitments to enable old people to get in and out without assistance;
- (d) Communicating bells between individual dwellings and, **in the case of major schemes only, the residence of the Warden;**
- (e) Fittings arranged so as to be convenient of access to old people and which will avoid the need for them to resort to undue bending or climbing of step ladders, etc., to gain access to such fitments;
- (f) Bath safety rails.

Contributions by the County Council.

(a) **Basic Contribution:** The County Council will make a basic contribution of £10 per annum in respect of each unit of accommodation for the period of the loan in relation to all schemes.

(b) **Minor Schemes:** For schemes of less than 18 houses (i.e., minor schemes) an additional contribution will be made by the County Council for the period of the Housing loan of £1 for every £10 of capital expenditure incurred by the Housing Authority in the provision of welfare facilities for all or any of the units of accommodation within the scheme, subject to a maximum of £25, including the basic grant of £10.

(c) **Major Schemes:** The County Council will make an additional contribution to the District Council in respect of welfare facilities calculated on the following basis by reference to the annual deficiency on the scheme concerned:—

- (i) The annual contribution in respect of welfare facilities shall not exceed the total deficiency incurred thereon in the year to which it relates;
- (ii) No contribution will be made in respect of items properly chargeable to the Housing Revenue Account and which could properly be covered by rents;
- (iii) Other than the basic contribution of £10 (4(a) above) there will be no subsidisation of rents nor assistance in respect of expenditure which would normally be borne by tenants;
- (iv) The expenses towards which the County Council will contribute will be limited to those incurred by District Councils in providing welfare facilities, e.g., the welfare services of the kind referred to in 3 above and communal facilities or services, the cost of which cannot properly be recovered in rent and can be considered to arise as a direct consequence of the houses being erected for old people, e.g., warden's house and costs and laundry services; and
- (v) A contribution calculated on the basis of the foregoing principles and the contribution in 4(a) above will be the maximum contribution payable in respect of the major scheme to which they relate. Of that maximum, there will be paid in every year to the District Council concerned such proportion as the number of dwellings comprised in the scheme and actually occupied during that year by tenants approved by the County Council bears to the total number of dwellings in the scheme."

Since 1948 the Council have built 259 houses, bungalows and flats and the table shown below indicates the yearly totals of property constructed in the town:—

Year	New Council property	New Private property	Total
1961	4	272	276
1960	—	247	247
1959	4	182	186
1959	22	68	90
1957	10	79	89
1956	14	90	104
1955	—	76	76
1954	11	77	88
1953	19	62	81
1952	42	10	52
1951	2	7	9
1950	40	3	43
1949	31	10	41
1948	60	—	60

The tremendous spurt in private house building in the past three years is seen in the above table.

**TABLE SHOWING HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWN
OVER THE PAST 50 YEARS.**

Year	Population	No. of properties	No. of persons per property	Rateable value	Product of 1d. rate
1911... ..	2,036	532	3.8	—	—
1921... ..	*4,085	770	5.3	£22,625	£81
1931... ..	4,511	1,579	2.9	£43,310	£163
1941... ..	†10,030	2,750	3.6	£74,731	£299
1951... ..	8,809	3,536	2.5	£82,188	£325
1961... ..	10,670	5,034	2	£166,284	£668

*Uncorrected figure. Corrected—2,946, which gives a figure of 3.8 persons per house.

†This abnormally high figure was due to war-time reception of evacuees.

The above table shows the improvement in overcrowding that has taken place in the town especially in the past decade.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

There is very little property in Prestatyn which falls within the category requiring demolition, that is properties which cannot be reconstructed at reasonable cost.

The remaining area for slum clearance is The Warren, where conditions can only be described as primitive; without sanitation, water supply or adequate roads, and it is hoped that in the near future this area will be cleared of permanent dwellings.

SUPERANNUATION.

In 1961, 14 medical examinations were carried out on Urban District staff, either for fitness to commence employment or because of absence from work through ill health.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no such establishments in the district.

INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959.

The prescribed particulars of inspections carried out during the year are provided in the annex to this report.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and active interest in the Department. My thanks is also due to the Council officials who have been most helpful and co-operative, and to Mr. Edwards in particular. I should also like to express my gratitude to Dr. G. W. Roberts, County Medical Officer, who has given me every encouragement and help with my work.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. P. W. ROBERTS.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1961

GENERAL SUMMARY OF VISITS, ETC.

GENERAL SANITATION.

Water Supply	74
Drainage	124
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	5
Fried Fish Shops	6
Camps, etc.	87
Factories and Workshops	8
Bakehouses	10
Public Conveniences	81
Rats and Mice	65
Schools	14
Watercourses	2
Special Visits re. Housing	22
Visits under National Assistance Act, Sec. 47 and 60	6
Premises re. Insect Pests	16
Miscellaneous Visits and Re-inspections	176
Complaints received and investigated	36
Number of Nuisances abated	23
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	24
Formal notices for nuisances	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Number of cases occurring	119
Enquiries	84
Number removed to Hospital	3
Disinfection	15

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Butchers' Shops	10
Fishmongers	1
Grocers	29
Ice Cream Premises	34
Food Preparing Premises	23
Dairies and Milk Shops	1
Miscellaneous	9

SANITARY DEFECTS, ETC.

Defective Roofs	26
Defective Floors	23
Defective Eaves and Downspouts	10
Defective Doors	10

Defective Windows	24
Defective Wall and Ceiling Plaster	25
Defective Grates	6
Defective Chimneys	4
Dampness	57
Defective Sinks and Washbasins	6
Defective Gullies and Wastepipes	2
Defective Pavings	5
Defective Drains	18
Number of Stopped Drains	342
Defective Inspection Chambers	8
Defective Septic Tanks	4
Defective Water Closets	2
Defective W.C. Cisterns and Fittings	4
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	—
Insufficient Water Supply	5
Accumulation of Refuse	3
Dilapidated Dustbins	98
Dirty Houses, Outhouses and Yards	5
Insect Pests	3
Rats and Mice	106
Animals kept in Insanitary Conditions	—
Choked and Insanitary Ditches	6
Miscellaneous	—

NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS.

Farms and Dairies	4
Camps and Caravans	7
Cafes	2
Offices	—
Shops	8
Food Shops	1
Schools	8
Bakeries	2
Hotels	2
Garages, etc.	2
Fried Fish Shops	—
Miscellaneous	5

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Number of visits re Collection and Salvage	95
Number of visits re. Disposal	85

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This service is carried out with one eighteen cubic yard rear-loading vehicle and two ten cubic yard side-loading vehicles, one of which is now over ten years old and is due for replacement. Experience would seem to show that the best type of vehicle for work in this town is the eighteen cubic yard lorry, and it is hoped eventually to standardise the refuse fleet on this model.

The number of properties in the Council's area continues to increase and the refuse collection service is frequently strained to its utmost in an effort to maintain a regular collection. During the year the regularity of collections has been upset due to the fact that sick leave taken by the workmen concerned has amounted to a total of 370 days, and 24 days were lost due to absenteeism, compared with 25 days sickness last year. In addition, the demands made by the Central Beach, the Sea Wall and the Ffrith Beach for frequent clearances of litter and refuse are increasing and are especially heavy during the Summer months. It is felt, therefore, that when a replacement refuse vehicle is purchased, that the old ten cubic yard vehicle should be retained to operate in the Beach area and in the various Caravan Sites during the Summer months, thus reducing the burden on the regular vehicles, in order that they might devote more time to the clearance of refuse from domestic premises.

Work on the Refuse Tip is proceeding in a fairly satisfactory manner, although there have been frequent delays due to the breaking down of the crawler loader from time to time.

During the year we have been particularly unfortunate in having several fires on the Tip face which have proved to be a costly item in addition to being a nuisance whilst they are still burning. With one exception, all fires were caused by trespassers on the site who were sorting over and disturbing the refuse and were careless with cigarettes and matches. In one instance, the fire was due to hot ashes being brought to the tip in the refuse lorry. The problem of unauthorised persons gaining access to the Refuse Tip after working hours is becoming more serious and much time is spent in the evenings endeavouring to prevent this. I fear that short of erecting a very expensive fence around the whole of this large area, complete success in preventing this trespass is virtually impossible.

An area of land, approximately seven acres, has been tipped upon to a height of six feet, and it is possible that the Council could, in the near future, consider whether or not a portion of this could not be put to some use.

No. of loads of refuse collected	2,094
Number of loads of refuse disposed of	2,542
Area of district, in acres	3,655
Population	10,670
Number of premises	4,762

A word of appreciation must go to the refuse collectors for their cheerfulness in carrying out their duties in all kinds of weather.

SALVAGE.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.		£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper	145	10	2	24	...	1,148	10	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Fibreboard... ..	60	4	1	11	...	646	2	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
White Paper	31	15	1	12	...	270	0	5
Rags	6	5	1	0	...	84	17	0
Mixed Metal		6	2	15	...	3	19	7
Heavy Scrap	4	3	1	0	...	20	15	8
	248	5	2	6	...	£2,174	5	7

Salvage, 1960	235	16"	0	18	...	£2,022	17	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
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It is gratifying to note that the income from salvage sold during the year showed an increase of £151 8s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. over the figure obtained in 1960. Waste paper, rags and scrap metal are still required, and it is hoped that the co-operation hitherto granted by householders and business premises will continue, since the income from the sale of such items continues to make a valuable contribution to the rate fund and so reduce the over-all cost of the refuse collection service. In addition to this, the abstraction of such items from the refuse generally causes a reduced bulk, and so conserves tipping space, thus prolonging the life of the area available for this purpose.

WATER SAMPLING.

	Bacterio- logical		Satis- factory		Unsatis- factory
Town Main Supply	17	...	17	...	—
Holywell R.D.C. Supply ...	5	...	5	...	—
Private Supply, Wells, etc....	—	...	—	...	—
Streams	2	...	1	...	1
Swimming Pool (Lido)	10	...	10	...	—
Swimming Pool (Camp) ...	10	...	10	...	—
Total Samples Taken	44	...	43	...	1

Bacteriological samples are taken from properties at random throughout the Council's area, and with the exception of one unsatisfactory sample of raw water taken from a stream all others proved to be up to the standard required. Improvements were carried out in the vicinity of the stream previously mentioned, resulting in a further sample proving satisfactory.

The results of a chemical analysis of the town's water supply are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

SWIMMING POOLS.

As may be seen from the total in the previous section, water samples are taken from both the Royal Lido and the Prestatyn Holiday Camp Swimming Pools regularly during the Holiday Season. In each case the results have been highly satisfactory.

The water in both Swimming Pools is filtered and Chlorinated and there is a complete change of water every six hours. Mains water is used in the Holiday Camp Pool, and although sea water is used at the Royal Lido Swimming Pool the results of samples taken are equal to those obtained from water in our own mains.

FOOD AND DRUG PREMISES.

(1) Number of Food Premises in the area, by type of premises:—

Grocers	36	Candy Floss Kiosks	3
Greengrocers	12	Ice Cream Kiosks	6
Confectioners	11	Cinemas and Theatres	3
Bakeries	14	Schools	7
Restaurants and Snack Bars...	24	Homes	6
Butchers	11	Hospitals	1
Fishmongers and Game Dealers	4	Boarding Houses... ..	5
Fried Fish Shops	5	Registered Clubs	9
Sweet Shops	17	Licenced Houses	9

Total: 183.

This figure represents approximately one-third of the total business premises in the area.

(2) Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:—

Grocers	18	Kiosks	6
Restaurants and Snack Bars...	15	Fried Fish Shops	5
Sweet Shops	7	Butchers	1
Greengrocers	2		

(3) Ninety-six visits of inspection have been paid to Food Premises in general, and 63 to those premises which are registered under the above-mentioned Act and Regulations.

(4) **Fried Fish Shops:—**

Number of Fried Fish Shops in District 5

These shops are well conducted.

I am pleased to report that the food traders in general are continuing their efforts to provide a clean service in accordance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Due to the co-operation of those concerned, any breaches of the Regulations have been remedied without the necessity of resorting to formal action.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

All the town's meat supply is slaughtered and inspected at the Rhyl Municipal Abattoir and from time to time is further inspected when exposed for sale in the local shops.

Other foods, canned goods, etc., are inspected when necessary, and the following is a list of unsound food condemned in the shops:—

Solids.		Liquids.
	lbs. ozs.	23½ pints Tinned Milk.
Fruit	455 5½	10 ozs. Cream.
Vegetables	62 5½	
Meat	227 7½	
Fish	63 13¾	
Miscellaneous	77 3½	
	<hr/> 875 14¾ <hr/>	

32 pkts. Vitamin Tablets, 36 x 6 fl. ozs. Cod Liver Oil.

It would appear that there is a gradual increase in the amount of tinned foodstuff which is being damaged during transit, and although not actually unsound this is regarded by the majority of shopkeepers as being unacceptable to their customers. This increased damage is largely due to the fact that goods nowadays are packed in fibreboard containers instead of the wooden cases which, in the past, afforded greater protection. The traders are most co-operative in drawing my attention to any unsound food which may find its way into their shops.

Particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area during the year ended 1961.

	Nos. taken		Genuine	Not genuine or below standard	
Milk	14	...	14	...	—
Dairy Products	4	...	4	...	—
Sausages	6	...	6	...	—
Ice Cream and Lollies... ..	3	...	3	...	—
Confectionery	6	...	6	...	—
Alcoholic Drinks	3	...	3	...	—
Cooking Fats and Fish Frying Oils... ..	3	...	3	...	—
Fish and Meat Products...	3	...	3	...	—
Patent Medicines... ..	3	...	3	...	—
Miscellaneous Groceries...	14	...	14	...	—
	—		—		—
	60		60		—
	—		—		—

All samples taken were found to be satisfactory.

(Signed) E. LEWIS,

County Public Health Inspector.

LICENSED PREMISES.

All premises requiring a Magistrates' Licence were inspected during the year, and a report was presented to the Licensing Justices at the Brewster Sessions.

The premises inspected are as follows:—

Licensed Houses	10
Licensed Clubs	8
Public Halls, Cafe, etc.	5
Cinemas	2

I am pleased to say that it was not necessary to report adversely on any of these premises.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories, in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	...	—	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities ...	39	16	3	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	...
Total	40	16	3	...

2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of clearliness	1	1
Overcrowding	—	—	...	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	...	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	...	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	...	—
Sanitary conveniences:—	2	2	...	—
(a) insufficient	—	—	...	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	...	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	...	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	...	—
Total	3	3

PART VIII. OF THE ACT: OUTWORK (Section 110 and 111).

Outworkers in August List required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (2).
 Wearing Apparel-making, etc. 1

RODENT INFESTATION.**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

The duties of a Rodent Officer are carried out by the General Assistant in the Public Health Department, and I am pleased to report that the number of treatments necessary to be made during the year has been considerably less than in 1960.

The majority of infestations which occur are of a minor character and include Council property other than dwelling-houses which have been treated regularly as a matter of routine.

The majority of infestations of private households are still caused by the indiscriminate feeding of birds and unconsumed breadcrumbs, etc., being left on the ground. Generally speaking, the residents are very co-operative in discontinuing this practice when the risks of infestation are pointed out to them.

No difficulties are experienced in obtaining the co-operation both of the occupiers of private and business premises in reporting the presence of rats or mice, and this contributes greatly to maintaining a low rodent population in the area.

The disinfestation service is free to householders and a small charge is made for work done on business premises.

The refuse tip and both sewerage disposal works are treated regularly, and it is pleasing to note that there is no permanent infestation of any of these premises.

Treatment carried out.

	Rats	Mice
Private Dwellings	96	11
Council Dwellings	5	—
Business Premises	29	16
Council Property other than Dwellings	35	1
Farms	2	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Visits	167	28
	<hr/>	<hr/>

CAMPS.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.

Ten sites were licensed during the year for seasonal occupation, which are as follows:—

Caravan Site and Number of Caravans.

Tan-y-Don Camp	66
Prestatyn Holiday Camp	135
Plas Deva Caravan Camp	45
White House Camp	8
Plas Morfa Caravan Site	9
Midnant Farm Caravan Site	20
Pen-y-Ffrith Caravan Camp	55

Licences were issued in respect of sites for single caravans adjoining the following premises:—

Ironmongers' Shop, Ffordd Talargoch, Meliden.
Y Nyth, Plas Newydd Drive, Prestatyn.
"Brookdale," Cefn-y-Gwrych, Meliden.

Applications from three site owners for licences are still being dealt with, the delay being due to the necessity for major alterations and replanning of the sites in question.

The Caravan sites generally are well conducted, the owners are co-operating fully with this department in all matters. The district continues to be very popular with campers who are inclined to pitch their tents in all parts of the district without reference to the owners of the land in question and considerable difficulty is experienced in controlling such indiscriminate camping and in maintaining any real standard of hygiene.

There are two camping grounds, used by the owners of tents, which enjoy "long-user rights" under the Town and Country Planning Acts, and these are filled to capacity during late July and early August. In practice, the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, do not provide adequate control of this temporary camping and it is possible that the limit of 42 consecutive days permitted under the Act may be rather too wide. It would appear that if properly laid-out sites were provided, preferably by the local authority and properly maintained, these would go a long way towards improving an ever-increasing demand on the part of the campers for reasonable holiday accommodation. The practice of taking holidays in caravans and tents is one which has grown tremendously since

the end of the war and which has created a problem which must be met either by private individuals or local authorities, and it is felt that this Council should very seriously consider the setting up of a Municipal site to cater for the needs of these holidaymakers.

Organised camps occupied by units of Boy Scouts and Boys' Brigade are set up each year, but since these are properly organised and well conducted they cause very little trouble to the department.

TALACRE WARREN.

There are 77 hutments in this area, but I am pleased to report that the permanent residential population has fallen to 12 families and there is every indication that this number will decrease further in the very near future. As has been previously reported, sanitary conditions in this area are far from satisfactory in such as there are no facilities for sewage disposal, the water supply is inadequate and the general condition of the hutments is unsatisfactory. The area is low-lying, parts of it being at sea level and it is liable to serious flooding in bad weather.

Steps are being taken by the Council to deal with these properties which are permanently occupied under the Provisions of the Housing Acts and to provide alternative accommodation for the residents involved. The owners of this land have agreed in principle to the construction of a caravan site complete with those items necessary to apply with the model standards made under the Caravan Act, and it is anticipated that work will commence on this in 1962.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are eight public conveniences in the town situated at the rear of the Palladium Cinema, Coronation Gardens, Central Beach, near the Grand Hotel, Pendre Gardens, Hillside Gardens, Meliden and The Ffrith Beach.

The misuse and wanton damage in these premises still continues as was reported last year, and although every effort has been made to apprehend offenders, these have been unsuccessful. With the exception of those toilets at the Ffrith Beach, it is an impractical proposition to provide permanent attendants

owing to the fact that each unit is too small and, as a result, it is not possible always to maintain these facilities in a way that is to be desired.

Owing to the rapid growth of the town, the necessary facilities are proving to be inadequate and it is felt that, in addition to replacing the existing buildings in the Hillside Gardens, Central Beach and near the Grand Hotel, provision should be made for further conveniences to be erected in the Victoria Road West and Ffordd Penrhwylfa districts.

MORTUARY.

No use was made of these premises during 1961.

HOUSING.

(1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	29
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	56
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	20

(2) Remedy of defects during the year with Service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	16
--	----

(3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

(C) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(1a) Number of houses for which Undertakings were accepted	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

(D) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(1) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling having been rendered fit...	—

(4) Housing Act, 1936 (Overcrowding):—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	18
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	23
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	96
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	11
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	5
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	18
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

The legal standard recognises living rooms as sleeping rooms, so that an ordinary 5-roomed house (2 living rooms and 3 bedrooms) could house 10 adults without being legally overcrowded.

In considering the cases of applicants for houses, the Council recognises a "bedroom standard" for overcrowding and this has helped to relieve many cases of near legal overcrowding.

RENT ACT, 1957.

Certificates of disrepair issued	—
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	—

PRIVATE AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN PRESTATYN URBAN DISTRICT AREA.

Pestatyn Urban District Act, 1909.
 Prestatyn Water Act, 1909.
 Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Whole Act).
 Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1893.
 Private Street Works Act, 1892.
 Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907
 (Except Parts V., VII. and IX.).
 Public Health (Buildings in Streets) Act, 1888.
 New Streets Act, 1951.
 S.D.A. Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899-1923.
 Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.
 Public Health Act, 1925.

BYE-LAWS.

Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions in Handling Food, 1950.
 Building Byelaws, 1939
 (Plus addition for Grates to burn smokeless fuel).
 Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures used for human habitation, 1931.
 Nuisances, 1899.
 Slaughterhouses, 1899.
 Water Bye-laws (made under Section 17, Water Act, 1945).

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN.

Month	Temperature		Sunshine		Rainfall	
	Lowest	Highest	Longest	Total	Maximum	Total
January ...	24° (15th)	55° (28th)	5.1 hrs. (17th)	33.8 hrs.	0.61" (5th and 20th)	3.89"
February ...	29° (17th and 21st)	58° (15th, 19th and 26th)	7.8 hrs. (19th)	66.1 hrs.	0.59" (28th)	2.42"
March ...	32° (5th and 6th)	62° (5th)	9.5 hrs. 16th)	113.2 hrs.	0.20" (31st)	0.60"
April ...	35° (3rd and 4th)	56° (16th)	11.2 hrs. (16th)	101.6 hrs.	0.38" (25th)	2.55"
May... ..	38° (19th)	67° (13th)	13.6 hrs. (28th and 31st)	212.4 hrs.	0.71" (4th)	1.49"
June... ..	41° (14th)	79° (30th)	13.8 hrs. (28th)	201.6 hrs.	0.40" (10th)	1.35"
July	47° (19th)	70° (12th)	14.1 hrs. (20th)	148.3 hrs.	1.92" (12th)	4.09"
August... ..	41° (31st)	84° (29th)	12.2 hrs. (28th)	199 hrs.	0.75" (7th)	2.70"
September...	41° (18th)	85° (1st)	11.2 hrs. (3rd)	151.4 hrs.	0.37" (4th)	2.12"
October ...	37° (14th)	66° (4th)	9.2 hrs. (1st)	127.2 hrs.	0.46" (16th)	2.75"
November...	27° (27th)	59° (1st)	7.2 hrs. (9th)	72.3 hrs.	0.68" (29th)	1.82"
December ...	16° (25th)	57° (10th and 13th)	5.4 hrs. (2nd)	68.9 hrs.	0.72" (1st)	2.41"

Total Rainfall for the year: 28.19"

With the continued increase in the growth of the town, it is becoming more difficult to carry out all the duties relating to the Department, especially those entailing routine inspections of factories and shops. Whilst every effort is made to apportion the time spent on indoor and outdoor duties, I find that the increasing amount of time which has to be given to office administration is tending to reduce the time spent on such routine matters as those mentioned above.

In conclusion, may I express my appreciation of the help and kindness shown me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Dr. D. P. W. Roberts, the Clerk of the Council, and the indoor and outdoor staff.

J. M. EDWARDS,

Public Health Inspector.

